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IN THIS ISSUE

Statistical Studies of Heart Disease, IV

A Replacement for Loeffler in Diphtheria Diagnosis



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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CONTENTS

	Page
Statistical studies of heart disease. IV. Mortality from heart disease (all forms) related to geographic section and size of city. Mary Gover.....	439
Raffinose serum tellurite agar slants as a replacement for Loeffler's medium in diphtheria diagnosis. Ona R. Whitley and Samuel R. Damon.....	457
INCIDENCE OF DISEASE	
United States:	
Reports from States for week ended March 19, 1949.....	461
Plague infection in Yoakum County, Tex., and Yakima County, Wash.....	464
Territories and possessions:	
Hawaii Territory—Plague (in rodents and fleas).....	464
Deaths during week ended March 12, 1949.....	464
Foreign reports:	
Cuba—	
Habana—Communicable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.....	465
Provinces—Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.....	465
Gold Coast—Cerebrospinal meningitis.....	465
Jamaica—Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.....	465
New Zealand—Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended January 29, 1949.....	466
Switzerland—Notifiable diseases, year 1948.....	466
Madagascar—Notifiable diseases—January 1949.....	467
Reports of cholera, plague, smallpox, typhus fever, and yellow fever received during the current week—	
Cholera.....	467
Plague.....	467
Smallpox.....	468
Typhus fever.....	469
Yellow fever.....	469

Public Health Reports

Vol. 64 • APRIL 8, 1949 • No. 14

Statistical Studies of Heart Disease

IV. Mortality from heart disease (all forms) related to geographic section and size of city

By MARY GOVER *

This is the fourth in a series of studies dealing with the statistics of heart disease morbidity and mortality. The studies are prepared jointly by the Division of Public Health Methods, Public Health Service, and the National Office of Vital Statistics with the cooperation of the Division of States Relations.

Any possible relationship of heart disease mortality with geographic section and population size can be appraised only in a general manner from vital statistics data. Resident age-adjusted rates of mortality from heart disease specific for sex, color, and size-of-city in each geographic section are obtainable from vital statistics tabulations and give an over-all picture of variation with respect to section and urbanization. Other variables such as income and occupation may influence heart disease mortality, but are not usually obtainable from routine tabulations of death certificates.

Source of the Data

The source of the data for this study is the annual report of deaths made by the National Office of Vital Statistics, supplemented by an unpublished tabulation of resident deaths from heart disease in 1940, specific for age, sex, race, urbanization, and geographic section of the United States. Mortality rates based on these data have been adjusted for age for purposes of geographic comparison—those for States by the indirect and those for geographic section by the direct method (2, pp. 270-276). Because of some degree of overlapping of diagnosis, mortality from intracranial lesions of vascular origin and from nephritis are included in this study in nearly the same detail as mortality from heart disease.

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The broad divisions of heart disease identified by the International List of Causes of Death are (1) congenital diseases of the heart, (2) acute rheumatic heart disease, (3) cardiovascular syphilis, and (4) a large classification group, including acute endocarditis, chronic conditions of the valves and endocardium, diseases of the coronary arteries, chronic myocarditis and other degenerative forms of heart disease. The present statistical study considers only a total of the last named group designated as heart disease (all forms) and tabulated in 1940 under International List numbers 90-95.

Approximately half of all death certificates are certified by physicians as due to multiple causes. When this is the case, selection of the primary cause of death is usually made in accordance with the Manual of Joint Causes of Death.¹ Heart disease, nephritis, and intracranial lesions of vascular origin are interrelated causes, and are therefore frequently reported jointly. According to the Joint-Cause Manual, nephritis is usually preferred over heart disease and heart disease over artery conditions. The 1940 tabulation of associated causes of death gives heart disease as contributory to nephritis in 42 percent of deaths due to nephritis and in 1 percent of deaths due to intracranial lesions of vascular origin. Among deaths due to heart disease 8 percent are primary over intracranial lesions of vascular origin and 2 percent over nephritis.

Coding procedure is uniform for the entire country. There are known to be geographic differences, however, in the relative frequency in the reporting of multiple causes of death by physicians among the several geographic sections (1), related probably to the urban character of a district and to proximity to large centers of medical practice. This geographic variability in the frequency of reporting of multiple causes results in geographic differences in the relative number of death certificates referred to the Joint-Cause Manual in a selection of the primary (tabulated) cause of death. The almost perfect agreement between tabulated frequency of primary and associated cause of death and Manual preference (5) indicates that in the selection of primary cause of death reliance has been placed upon this arbitrary standard almost exclusively.

Recent Trend

Age-adjusted mortality from heart disease in the death registration area has increased from a rate of 253 in 1930 to 292 per 100,000 in 1940, an annual increase of 1.5 percent (4). Similar trends by geographic section are shown in figure 1 and table 1. Percentage change in mortality in the several sections has been determined for the period

¹ For a detailed account of allocation to primary and contributory cause of death together with tabulated frequencies and a consideration of changes in coding procedure, 1900 to the present, see earlier studies in this series (4, 5).

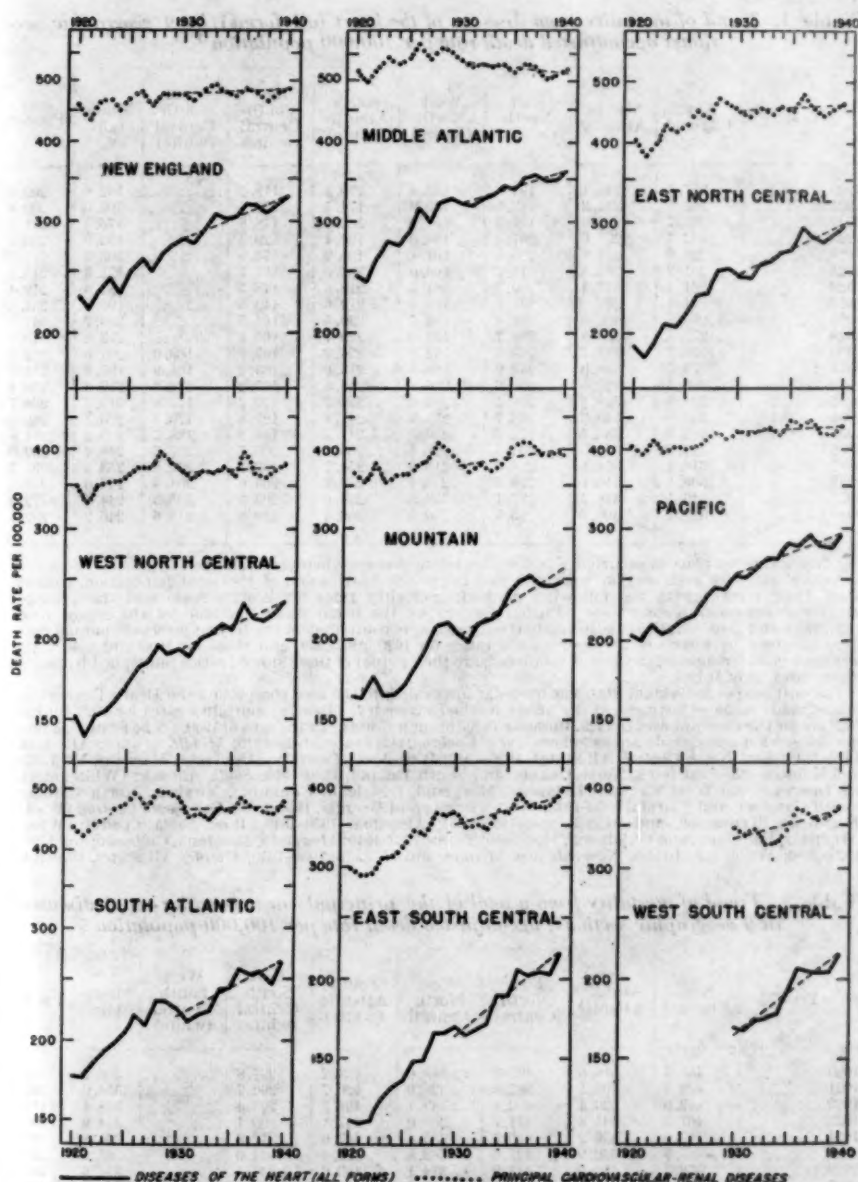


Figure 1. Rate of change in mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) and from a total of the major cardiovascular-renal diseases in each of the nine geographic sections of the United States, 1920-1940.

1930 through 1940 by fitting straight lines to the logarithms of the rates; the slopes of the fitted lines with their probable error are shown in table 3. For comparative purposes, mortality from a total of the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases, including heart disease, is also given in figure 1 and in tables 2 and 3.

Table 1. *Trend of mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) in 9 geographic sections; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 population*¹

Year	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic (white)	East South Central (white)	West South Central (white)	Mountain	Pacific
1920	227.1	246.1	191.3	152.3	176.1	119.2	-----	162.6	202.8
1921	217.5	241.3	183.0	140.6	174.7	117.6	-----	162.0	200.4
1922	231.7	262.0	194.3	151.9	182.7	118.8	-----	175.3	211.7
1923	242.5	278.0	207.4	154.3	191.4	129.3	-----	163.0	205.5
1924	229.6	273.8	205.1	161.1	196.9	134.9	-----	163.9	211.3
1925	251.2	288.5	215.7	168.0	204.6	137.7	-----	171.3	215.1
1926	261.1	313.4	230.5	181.3	218.6	148.5	-----	182.4	219.4
1927	251.1	297.9	231.6	183.9	212.6	149.3	-----	195.1	231.6
1928	266.3	320.9	251.4	196.5	230.5	164.5	-----	209.7	241.9
1929	273.8	323.9	252.7	190.5	229.7	165.4	-----	213.0	240.7
1930	278.7	318.7	246.3	192.6	224.2	167.7	168.0	204.0	252.5
1931	274.7	316.0	243.9	188.8	213.6	163.3	165.9	197.8	251.9
1932	288.5	323.5	256.9	200.8	219.5	167.2	171.4	212.4	259.1
1933	304.5	329.4	260.4	203.6	221.7	170.7	173.0	214.1	268.7
1934	301.5	340.3	268.7	211.9	241.4	187.8	176.0	220.1	268.8
1935	302.9	334.5	271.4	206.5	241.5	188.5	188.7	239.5	284.8
1936	317.6	351.3	294.5	228.5	259.1	206.7	207.5	248.4	282.0
1937	316.1	354.1	284.3	216.6	254.7	202.9	205.4	253.3	292.7
1938	308.1	346.1	279.5	215.4	256.2	204.6	204.3	245.0	282.0
1939	316.1	348.2	287.1	219.5	246.0	203.1	205.3	244.4	279.6
1940	327.1	360.3	295.9	230.1	266.4	219.8	218.6	246.9	292.7

¹ Deaths are by place of occurrence and are for white persons wherever available.

Annual rates for each section were adjusted to the age distribution of the total population, enumerated 1940, according to the following method: mortality rates for heart disease and the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases were adjusted for age by the usual direct method for the census years, 1920, 1930, and 1940. Ratios of adjusted to crude rates were computed for the 10-year intervals: annual ratios were obtained by interpolation between the ratios for 1920 and 1930, and those for 1930 and 1940. Age-adjusted rates for successive years as tabulated, are the product of these annual ratios multiplied by annual crude rates, as of July 1.

The entrance of individual States at irregular intervals into the area comprising the Death Registration States made some adjustment of the above method necessary. Briefly, mortality rates for 1920 through 1929 are for the constant area of 1920, those for 1930 through 1940 are for the area of 1930. The States included in each section and decade are as follows: *New England*: All States, 1920-1940; *Middle Atlantic*: All States, 1920-1940; *East North Central*: All States, 1920-1940; *West North Central*: Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas, 1920-1940; Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota, 1930-1940; *South Atlantic*: (White, except for Delaware and West Virginia) Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida, 1920-1940; West Virginia and Georgia, 1930-1940; *East South Central*: (White) Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi, 1920-1940; Alabama, 1930-1940; *West South Central*: (White) Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, 1930-1940; Texas, 1933-1940; *Mountain*: Montana, Colorado, and Utah, 1920-1940; Wyoming, Idaho, New Mexico Arizona, and Nevada, 1930-1940; *Pacific*: All States, 1920-1940.

Table 2. *Trend of mortality from a total of the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases*¹ in 9 geographic sections; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 population²

Year	New England	Middle Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic (white)	East South Central (white)	West South Central (white)	Mountain	Pacific
1920	455.3	516.6	405.3	348.0	433.2	297.8	-----	366.2	404.8
1921	429.5	495.1	382.8	328.6	420.7	290.7	-----	354.0	393.0
1922	459.0	520.4	400.4	349.1	435.7	293.4	-----	378.4	411.7
1923	467.5	541.8	424.7	353.0	447.1	309.1	-----	354.9	396.3
1924	447.9	530.2	416.7	355.4	462.0	312.3	-----	361.8	401.9
1925	467.9	540.9	427.6	362.8	471.7	324.0	-----	365.4	399.7
1926	478.1	569.9	448.9	374.1	489.6	341.5	-----	374.6	401.9
1927	455.9	536.7	439.1	373.5	465.2	338.1	-----	383.9	413.1
1928	474.0	560.6	469.9	395.0	491.8	363.5	-----	407.7	424.2
1929	473.3	552.4	462.7	379.3	490.2	361.5	-----	397.0	415.1
1930	472.9	536.9	449.2	369.0	481.8	366.0	347.5	381.5	426.4
1931	464.4	524.4	440.3	358.3	450.8	346.3	337.6	368.1	421.6
1932	479.2	529.1	452.9	369.0	454.5	348.7	342.8	377.3	427.4
1933	488.9	525.5	446.0	366.5	444.9	345.0	324.7	368.5	429.0
1934	478.5	529.5	455.8	375.9	465.5	367.9	329.1	379.5	423.4
1935	471.4	514.5	460.6	361.8	458.0	365.5	343.9	402.5	442.9
1936	483.4	530.3	480.7	393.6	484.3	390.1	371.0	409.4	435.9
1937	476.6	523.1	453.8	366.2	466.2	374.9	361.8	404.4	441.6
1938	462.1	504.4	442.6	362.1	458.6	372.5	356.1	392.1	426.0
1939	475.4	510.3	452.6	370.6	455.5	375.2	361.9	391.7	423.5
1940	482.0	519.3	461.6	379.2	475.3	395.7	374.0	388.8	434.6

¹ See appendix table, footnote 2.² See table 1, footnote 1.

Regional rates of mortality in time sequence (fig. 1) show considerable variability. It is obvious, however, that recorded heart disease mortality has increased, 1920-40, in all geographic sections; the rate of increase from 1930 to 1940 is greatest in the three Southern and the Mountain sections. Mortality from a total of the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases, or the sum of mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms), intracranial lesions of vascular origin, and nephritis (all forms) has, on the contrary, been practically stationary since 1930, except for a slight but significant increase in the rates in the East South and West South Central sections and a minor decrease in the Middle Atlantic region.

Table 3. Average annual percentage change in mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) and from a total of the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases, from 1930 to 1940

Geographic section	Heart disease (all forms) ¹	Principal cardiovascular-renal diseases ¹
	Average annual percentage change from 1930 to 1940 ²	
New England.....	+1.55±.16	+ .04±.11
Middle Atlantic.....	+1.26±.11	- .39±.09
East North Central.....	+1.92±.17	+ .24±.15
West North Central.....	+1.74±.20	+ .24±.17
South Atlantic.....	+2.06±.24	+ .12±.18
East South Central.....	+3.02±.23	+1.04±.20
West South Central.....	+2.95±.22	+1.00±.23
Mountain.....	+2.47±.26	+ .66±.20
Pacific.....	+1.49±.17	+ .17±.11

¹ See appendix table, footnote 2.

² The average annual percentage change and probable error was computed as follows:

$y = a + bx$ where y is the logarithm of the rate

$B = (\text{antilog of } b) - 1$ where B is the average annual percentage change in the rate

$$\sigma_s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n-2}}$$

where σ_s = square root of the sum of the squares of the differences between observed and calculated values of y divided by $n-2$ (i. e., 9), and where $\sum (x - \bar{x})^2$ = sum of squares of deviations of x from the mean of x .

$$P.E.B = 0.67449 \frac{(1+B)\sigma_s}{0.4342945}$$

Mortality in States

Mortality in separate States specific for sex and population-size is found in the appendix table and the rates are shown in map form in figure 2. Three main facts are seen (1) men have a higher rate of mortality than women in every size-of-city group, (2) both urban and rural mortality from heart disease is slightly higher in North than South and in Eastern than Central sections, (3) recorded urban mortality is higher than rural among both men and women. Owing to the general agreement in mortality from heart disease over large sections of the country, as seen in figure 2, summary rates in 5 sections have been used (figs. 3 and 4) for a regional and an urban-rural comparison.

DISEASES OF THE HEART (ALL FORMS)

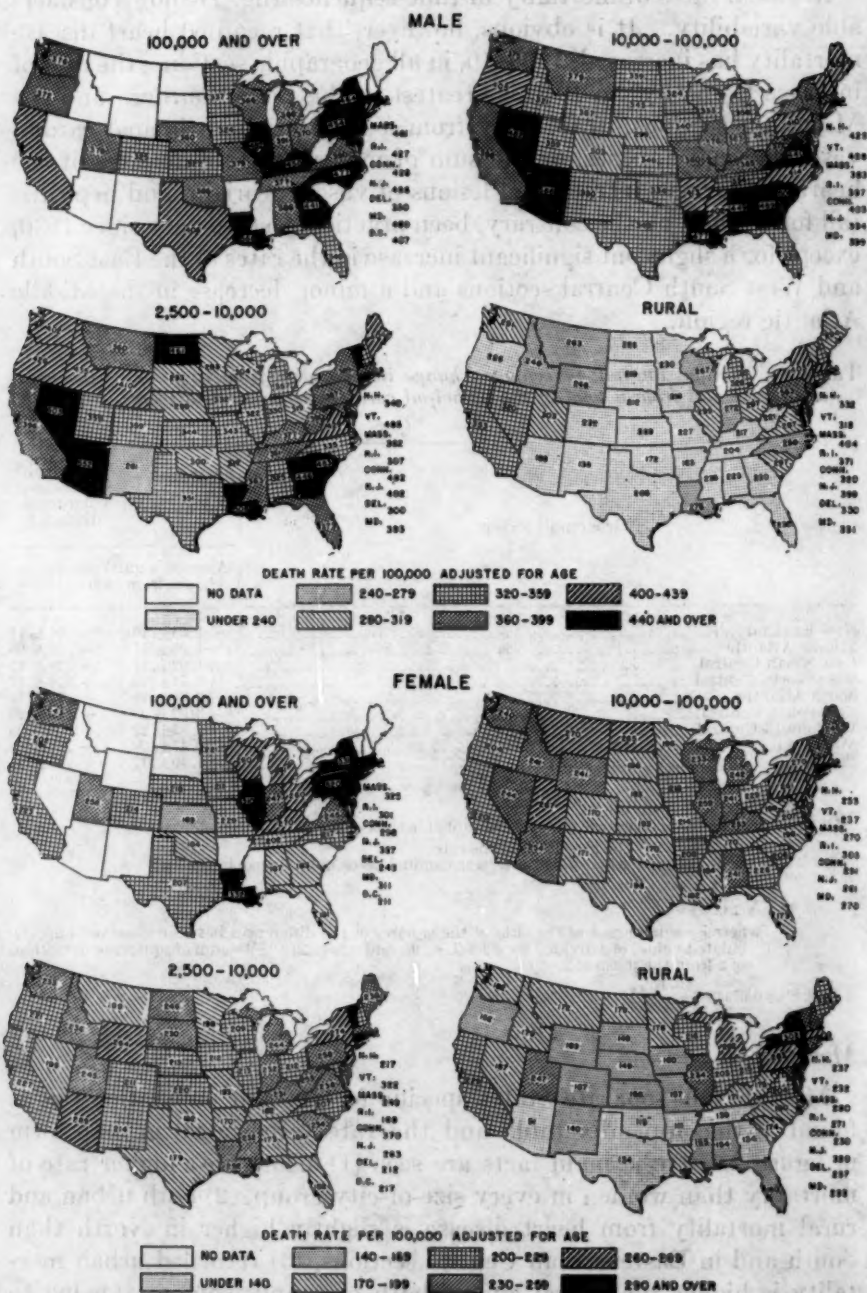


Figure 2. Distribution of mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) by States—white resident, age-adjusted mortality, specific for sex and urban-rural areas of States, 1940.

Geographic Section

A North-South comparison of heart disease mortality is most advantageously made in the Eastern section (fig. 3). Among males in large cities and rural areas and among females in all population-size groups, heart disease mortality is somewhat higher in the North than in the South. The only variation from the general statement of higher mortality in North than South is the high rates among males in smaller cities and towns of the South. The reason for this increased mortality is obscure from these data. Although the differences between heart disease mortality rates in North and South are not excessive and show some irregularity, they nevertheless amount to a difference (North minus South) of approximately 35 percent in rural areas and of 8 and 30 percent, respectively, for males and females of large cities.

An East-Central comparison shows somewhat wider and more consistent differences, the higher rates being in the East (fig. 3). In rural areas of the North, heart disease mortality is approximately 45 percent higher in the East than in the Central section. The only exception to the statement of higher mortality in the East is the unusually high rate among males in large cities of the Central South. This rate, however, is based on a relatively small population; only four States including seven large cities comprise that area. Mortality from heart disease in the Pacific section falls, on the average, between that in the East and Central divisions.

A North-South comparison of the remaining two causes of death grouped as cardiovascular-renal diseases (fig. 3) is as follows: Mortality from intracranial lesions of vascular origin shows no marked geographic differences but is, on the whole, higher in the South than the North and slightly higher in the East than Central sections. Mortality from nephritis is definitely higher in the South than in the North in all population-size groups and tends also to be higher in the East than Central sections. Recorded mortality from both intracranial lesions of vascular origin and nephritis is small compared with that from heart disease; on the whole the above-named causes are opposite to heart disease in respect to a North-South and in the same direction in respect to an East-Central comparison.

It has been pointed out that practically all death certificates certifying both heart disease and intracranial lesions of vascular origin are allocated as heart disease deaths and that they form 8 percent of all recorded mortality from heart disease; death certificates certifying both heart disease and nephritis, however, are almost entirely allocated to nephritis and form 42 percent of the nephritis death rate. These percentages are for the country as a whole and are not available by geographic section. Even if 40 percent of the recorded nephritis death rate or a total of the rate involving primary nephritis and secondary heart disease mortality is added to the heart disease death rate in the

Table 4. *White resident mortality from the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases in urban-rural areas of geographic sections, 1940: age-adjusted death rate per 100,000*¹

Geographic section	Both sexes				Male				Female			
	100,000 and over	10,000-100,000	2,500-10,000	Rural	100,000 and over	10,000-100,000	2,500-10,000	Rural	100,000 and over	10,000-100,000	2,500-10,000	Rural
Diseases of the heart (all forms) ²												
United States ³	346.8	303.7	289.6	237.9	419.3	377.9	363.5	274.1	279.5	237.2	221.3	196.5
New England	375.5	324.2	315.1	283.6	445.0	389.6	388.7	332.6	315.4	266.6	248.1	232.9
Middle Atlantic	389.7	326.5	321.5	337.6	452.1	396.6	387.0	330.9	330.2	283.3	260.7	230.4
East North Central	343.8	292.8	266.9	255.0	408.5	351.7	327.0	280.8	286.6	238.3	211.6	214.9
West North Central	281.2	267.4	260.3	190.4	352.2	340.6	323.0	220.9	202.1	202.1	201.3	155.5
South Atlantic	318.3	294.0	297.7	223.2	405.2	398.1	394.9	262.3	246.6	205.1	212.2	181.1
East South Central	301.1	298.8	274.5	186.8	393.8	383.7	357.7	210.3	223.6	205.1	203.7	154.6
West South Central	326.3	273.2	266.3	167.6	427.9	358.5	351.0	197.1	237.1	194.0	185.7	132.8
Mountain	278.6	294.4	310.7	205.7	339.6	368.0	391.6	232.3	223.0	222.4	223.2	168.2
Pacific	303.3	298.6	311.1	265.0	394.0	394.6	401.9	311.9	220.8	214.6	222.5	203.2
Intracranial lesions of vascular origin ²												
United States ³	77.6	91.6	94.7	85.7	78.8	95.3	100.6	87.1	76.3	88.5	89.7	84.0
New England	93.3	87.9	87.0	84.7	89.0	88.8	91.0	84.6	96.4	86.8	83.3	84.8
Middle Atlantic	68.1	85.4	82.4	90.3	66.9	83.1	78.4	88.5	69.0	87.3	85.7	92.2
East North Central	81.0	94.0	92.8	91.6	81.3	95.9	96.9	91.9	80.8	92.4	89.5	91.3
West North Central	79.6	69.0	69.5	77.6	82.8	96.7	103.5	79.4	76.8	89.8	92.1	75.4
South Atlantic	84.6	104.3	117.8	100.7	93.7	121.2	135.3	107.5	90.2	102.8	102.8	93.3
East South Central	93.4	113.7	103.8	88.4	99.5	130.6	120.1	92.9	87.9	100.0	90.4	83.3
West South Central	91.3	94.7	100.2	71.4	105.3	109.2	113.3	72.7	79.8	81.7	88.0	69.8
Mountain	72.0	89.9	100.9	64.6	70.4	93.6	110.2	61.5	73.1	86.2	90.7	68.9
Pacific	74.4	84.3	90.2	74.8	77.1	86.6	102.6	74.0	71.9	82.6	90.4	75.8

Nephritis (all forms) ²

	70.9	77.5	83.2	72.2	76.5	88.8	95.3	77.5	65.9	68.1	72.7	66.4
United States ¹	66.9	67.2	70.7	60.8	72.3	72.4	80.3	63.9	62.6	63.1	62.5	57.7
New England	65.9	81.6	88.6	85.0	67.8	88.7	90.3	86.4	64.2	75.8	87.1	83.6
Middle Atlantic	75.6	72.8	74.4	71.6	78.5	80.9	84.1	75.4	73.0	65.7	66.0	67.4
East North Central	65.6	73.9	69.3	58.0	74.0	89.5	80.7	62.7	58.3	60.4	58.7	52.5
West North Central	102.6	106.2	119.6	102.2	117.5	134.3	146.8	113.3	90.9	88.7	93.6	90.4
South Atlantic	74.7	100.0	96.1	80.9	92.6	116.6	121.9	91.3	60.7	80.5	75.0	69.7
East South Central	82.9	82.3	93.9	65.9	98.1	100.4	112.6	73.6	70.3	66.0	78.6	56.7
West South Central	69.9	81.8	85.7	54.7	70.3	96.5	105.8	55.4	69.6	67.3	74.9	53.8
Mountain	60.8	66.7	80.5	55.4	69.1	78.6	92.7	58.5	53.8	56.7	69.0	51.4
Pacific												

Cardiovascular-renal diseases ²

	405.3	472.8	467.5	395.8	574.6	562.0	559.4	438.7	431.7	393.8	383.7	346.9
United States ¹	537.4	481.8	476.4	437.2	612.6	554.2	559.4	485.3	477.2	423.5	400.2	389.6
New England	523.8	493.4	493.0	456.4	596.2	573.0	558.8	485.8	460.5	426.9	437.3	471.8
Middle Atlantic	500.0	460.5	437.3	427.0	576.2	529.1	507.3	462.7	431.0	400.9	376.5	386.2
East North Central	427.4	437.2	432.9	332.5	510.7	526.9	511.0	367.7	355.9	359.6	361.2	291.1
West North Central	596.5	509.6	537.6	426.0	623.8	664.6	684.5	483.2	412.1	383.3	410.3	365.6
South Atlantic	471.0	514.0	475.7	357.0	596.3	637.8	632.1	401.6	371.7	414.0	372.2	308.4
East South Central	500.9	451.1	461.2	305.1	640.4	573.5	578.4	344.6	385.4	339.8	352.2	268.5
West South Central	421.7	466.7	498.5	324.4	479.9	588.0	597.7	340.6	370.5	376.3	392.0	289.3
Mountain	439.8	452.7	489.3	396.1	544.8	560.8	596.9	446.3	350.3	362.4	386.9	330.5
Pacific												

¹ Age-adjusted rates for diseases of the heart (all forms) and for intracranial lesions of vascular origin were obtained by the direct method of adjustment (2, pp. 274-276). Age-adjusted rates for nephritis and for the total of cardiovascular-renal diseases were obtained by the indirect method of adjustment (2, pp. 270-274). Rates are adjusted to the age distribution of the total population as enumerated in 1940.

² See appendix table, footnote 2.

³ From Vital Statistics, Special Reports, vol. 23, No. 1, 1945.

PRINCIPAL CARDIOVASCULAR-RENAL DISEASES

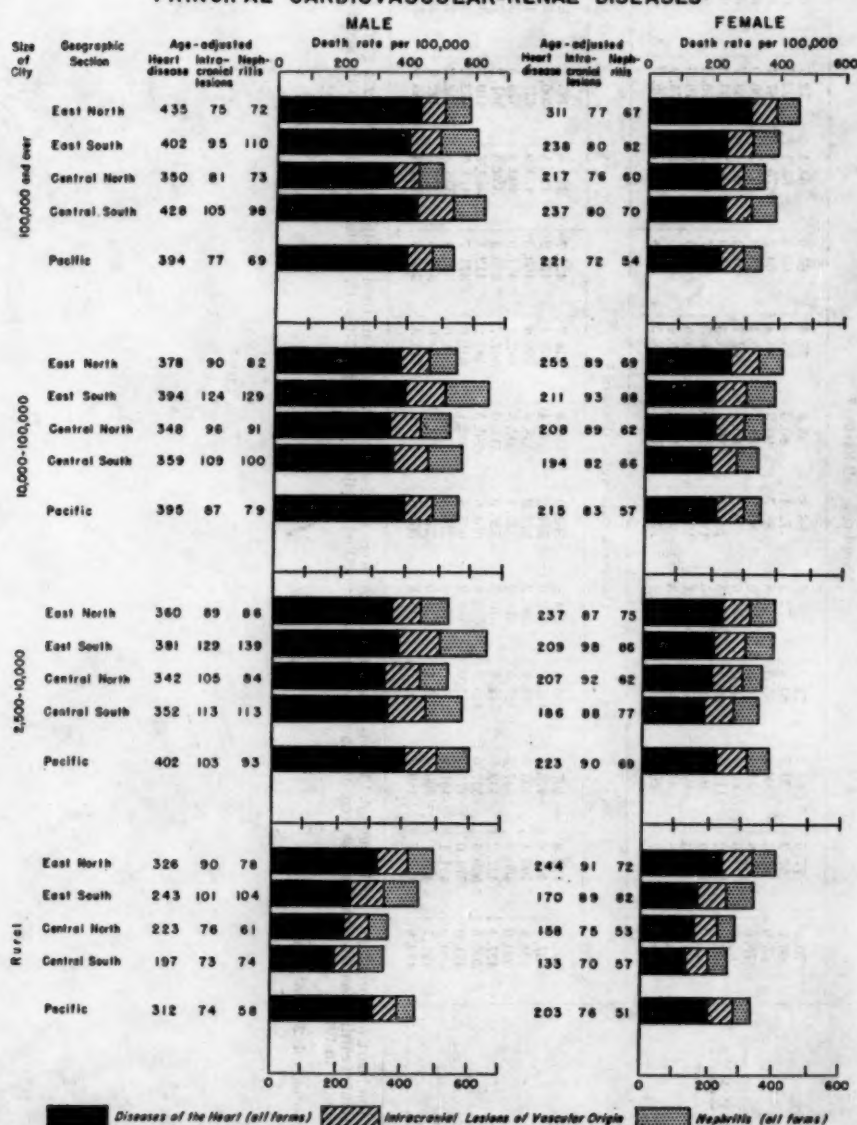


Figure 3. Regional comparison of mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) and from other major cardiovascular-renal diseases—white resident, age-adjusted mortality, specific for sex, population-size, and geographic section, 1940.

several geographic sections (as can be done from the rates given in fig. 3), both the North-South and East-Central relationships observed for recorded heart disease mortality still persist; namely, somewhat higher rates in North than South and in East than Central sections.

With this general presentation of heart disease mortality in mind, the question next arises whether rates for cities of the same size may

vary not only with respect to section of the country, but also according to other obviously related characteristics such as industrialization or income.

Some measure of industrialization in cities can be obtained from tabulations made by the Bureau of the Census of the number of persons employed in specific industries. The percentage of males 14 years and over employed in mining and manufacturing can be used as a rough index of industrialization and is shown in the following table for cities of three population-size groups, in five geographic sections:

Geographic section	Cities of 2,500-10,000 population	Cities of 10,000-100,000 population	Cities of 100,000 and over population
	Percent	Percent	Percent
East North.....	24.3	29.7	23.9
East South.....	20.8	19.9	18.3
Central North.....	11.6	14.7	17.4
Central South.....	13.3	13.3	14.6
Pacific.....	15.7	16.9	14.2

From Census of Population, 1940.

According to this rather crude index the extent of industrialization is greatest in the East North region; in both Eastern and Central sections it is usually slightly higher in the North; in both North and South it is markedly higher in the East. The index for the Pacific tends to fall between that for the East and Central sections. It appears, therefore, that the degree of industrialization among cities of the same size varies with section of the country and that the broad regional distribution of industrialization is in general similar to that of mortality from heart disease. It may be true, therefore, that industrialization, as measured by the percentage employed in manufacture and obviously related variables such as income and medical and hospital facilities, is correlated with heart disease mortality when population-size is held constant. This association because of an interrelationship with latitude may account for the slight observed association of mortality from all forms of heart disease with latitude as shown in variation with geographic section.

Heart disease is the only one of the three old-age causes of death dealt with here that shows the same broad regional distribution observed for industrialization.

Population-size

Recorded mortality from diseases of the heart decreases in general with a descending order of population-size (fig. 4); the difference between cities and rural areas is clearly marked, but among cities of varying size the differences are of a slight amount only and are not entirely consistent throughout.

In the Eastern section of the country rural mortality is lower than an average of urban, the percentage difference of urban minus rural mortality being greater in the South. The question arises as to how

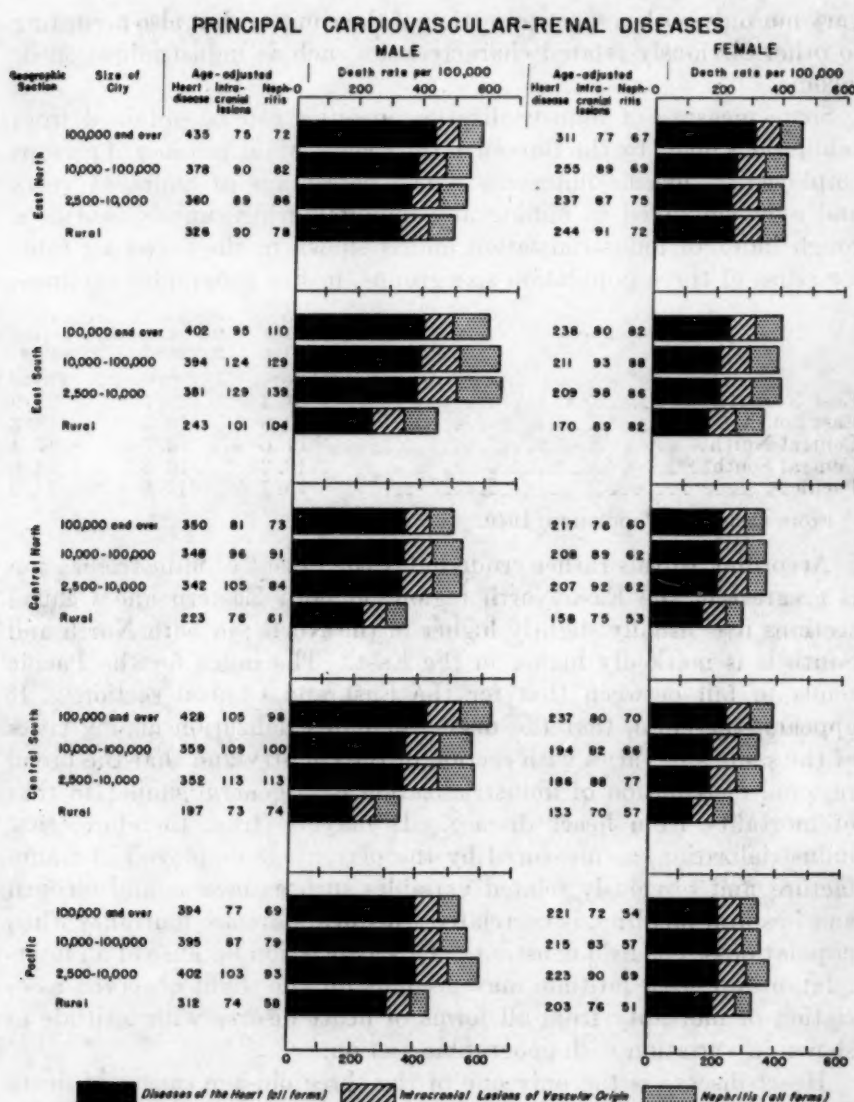


Figure 4. Urban-rural comparison of mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) and from other major cardiovascular-renal diseases—white resident, age-adjusted mortality, specific for sex, population-size, and geographic section, 1940.

much of this difference occasioned by low rural mortality can be caused by inaccuracy of reporting cause of death in rural areas. As a first approximation to an answer we have added to age-adjusted heart disease mortality the combined rate assigned to old-age and ill-defined and unknown causes (age-adjusted) specific for geographic section and size of city, and find that these ill-defined rates are small compared with mortality from heart disease and that therefore their

inclusion with heart disease does not alter any general conclusions.

Approximately half of the total deaths tabulated as ill-defined causes cannot be due to heart disease or an associated old-age cause of death since about that proportion of deaths allocated to ill-defined causes occurs at ages under 45 years. White mortality from ill-defined causes and from senility in the East North section is negligible in both cities and rural areas; in the East South section half the ill-defined rate is approximately 8 per 100,000 in cities and 15 per 100,000 in rural areas, and the senility rate is approximately 9 and 14 per 100,000 in cities and rural areas, respectively. If these old-age rates are added to heart disease mortality for both sexes, the percentage difference between urban and rural rates in North and South (East) is approximately 15 and 35 percent, respectively.

Mortality from both intracranial lesions of vascular origin and nephritis increases, insofar as city rates are concerned, as size of city decreases; the rates in rural areas, however, are the same as in small

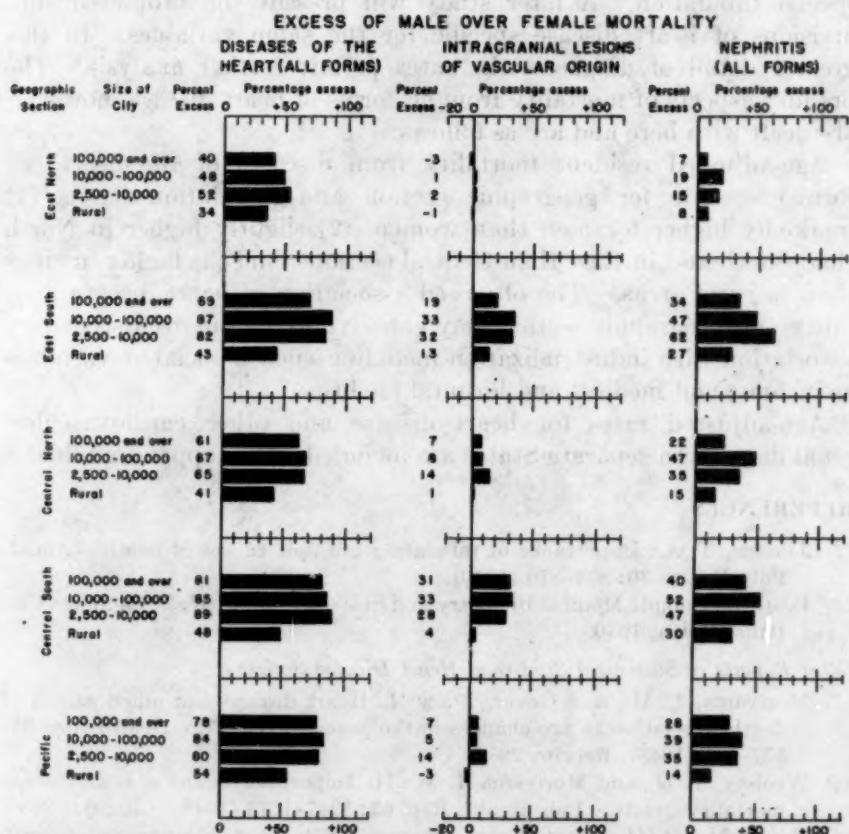


Figure 5. Excess of male over female mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) and from other major cardiovascular-renal diseases—white resident, age-adjusted rates, specific for sex, population-size, and geographic section, 1940.

cities or show a decrease, and in some cases are lower even than in cities of 100,000 population and over (fig. 4).

Male-Female Comparison

The percentage excess of male heart disease mortality over female (fig. 5) is higher in cities than in rural areas; and is also higher in the South than the North for all sizes of city and rural areas. Sex ratios of mortality from intracranial lesions of vascular origin and from nephritis show the same relationships with size of city and geographic section as heart disease, but with a considerably smaller male percentage excess.

Summary

Resident age-adjusted mortality from all forms of heart disease specific for sex, race, geographic section and population-size is considered in this study. Numbers of deaths are from available tabulations of the National Office of Vital Statistics, supplemented by a special tabulation. A later study will present the tabulated subdivisions of heart disease specific for the same variables. In this greater detail of diagnosis the rates permit further analysis. The broader aspects of mortality from all forms of heart disease, however, are dealt with here and are as follows:

Age-adjusted resident mortality from diseases of the heart (all forms) specific for geographic section and population-size is (1) markedly higher for men than women, (2) slightly higher in North than South and in East than Central sections, and (3) higher in cities than in rural areas. The observed association of heart disease mortality and geographic section may conceivably be due to a secondary association with industrialization including such associated variables as income, and medical and hospital facilities.

Age-adjusted rates for heart disease and other cardiovascular-renal diseases in separate States are included in the appendix table.

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Appendix

White resident mortality from the principal cardiovascular, renal diseases in urban-rural areas of States, 1940; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000¹

State and size of city	Diseases of the heart (all forms) ¹			Intracranial lesions of vascular origin ²			Nephritis ³			Cardiovascular-renal diseases ⁴		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Alabama:												
100,000 and over.....	277.8	386.1	187.5	87.8	99.5	78.0	91.2	122.3	64.9	458.8	613.2	330.3
10,000-100,000.....	333.0	449.2	241.4	120.1	164.2	86.1	113.9	130.2	100.9	564.3	739.1	426.4
2,500-10,000.....	242.7	325.5	172.6	96.4	90.9	100.9	116.1	153.4	84.8	455.2	570.1	358.2
Rural.....	190.7	224.8	154.5	91.0	95.1	86.5	102.8	117.7	87.0	383.8	437.1	327.3
Arizona:												
100,000 and over.....	406.8	566.1	253.7	135.2	159.1	113.7	101.9	130.9	74.5	634.3	835.6	439.9
10,000-100,000.....	425.2	552.2	289.0	99.5	111.2	87.5	109.8	116.0	102.8	634.7	779.4	479.1
2,500-10,000.....	135.6	168.0	90.5	37.9	38.8	36.7	39.9	41.7	37.4	212.5	248.1	162.9
Rural.....												
Arkansas:												
100,000 and over.....	304.7	412.5	208.5	97.3	112.8	83.2	110.5	143.6	80.4	511.1	670.6	369.2
10,000-100,000.....	239.7	317.3	169.9	110.2	123.3	98.1	96.0	120.0	80.1	447.5	558.9	346.7
2,500-10,000.....	139.2	162.9	111.0	71.0	73.5	68.0	67.9	80.7	52.7	277.8	316.8	231.4
Rural.....												
California:												
100,000 and over.....	306.5	408.1	223.1	70.1	73.3	67.5	56.0	65.1	48.5	432.1	546.1	338.9
10,000-100,000.....	299.5	398.3	220.4	79.0	82.1	76.5	58.1	68.4	49.9	436.2	548.2	346.7
2,500-10,000.....	307.8	395.6	227.3	90.3	95.4	85.7	69.6	81.5	58.8	467.6	572.6	372.0
Rural.....	298.5	353.4	228.7	73.1	72.1	74.4	52.1	55.2	48.2	423.4	480.6	350.9
Colorado:												
100,000 and over.....	266.2	325.0	214.2	75.5	74.5	76.4	77.9	79.3	76.7	418.9	477.6	367.0
10,000-100,000.....	233.1	303.0	170.3	79.2	88.9	70.5	76.1	92.9	60.9	388.2	483.7	301.9
2,500-10,000.....	286.2	359.4	211.5	92.5	97.1	87.8	76.8	89.4	64.3	453.3	544.1	361.0
Rural.....	203.8	231.9	166.9	71.6	66.4	78.6	66.7	69.3	63.3	341.5	367.3	307.8
Connecticut:												
100,000 and over.....	357.9	428.0	297.7	85.4	86.8	84.3	63.0	73.2	54.2	505.4	587.5	435.0
10,000-100,000.....	342.9	402.9	290.5	94.6	91.6	97.2	74.2	74.9	73.5	510.9	569.1	460.5
2,500-10,000.....	420.3	482.1	369.9	140.2	128.2	150.4	81.5	104.2	64.6	638.0	710.0	579.6
Rural.....	273.7	319.6	230.3	68.6	69.9	67.3	51.3	59.7	43.4	393.2	449.0	340.7
Delaware:												
100,000 and over.....	291.6	350.2	243.2	97.7	110.0	87.4	115.1	115.9	114.5	502.5	573.3	444.0
10,000-100,000.....	251.7	300.0	211.6	80.0	83.4	77.0	120.7	155.7	93.2	465.0	558.0	388.6
2,500-10,000.....	294.1	330.2	256.6	88.6	89.4	87.8	96.9	102.7	90.9	475.7	519.0	430.9
Rural.....												
District of Columbia:												
100,000 and over.....	293.3	406.7	210.5	79.5	89.5	72.2	99.2	115.7	87.1	472.1	612.9	369.5
Florida:												
100,000 and over.....	262.7	348.7	180.9	82.3	94.0	71.3	80.3	97.6	64.2	425.1	538.9	316.8
10,000-100,000.....	246.9	330.6	173.4	86.2	105.6	69.4	75.7	92.3	60.9	408.1	527.9	303.2
2,500-10,000.....	274.5	372.5	182.3	106.2	118.0	95.0	92.1	119.1	66.0	471.9	607.0	343.6
Rural.....	194.8	232.1	150.3	86.4	92.5	79.1	74.6	80.9	67.0	355.6	405.1	296.4
Georgia:												
100,000 and over.....	291.9	440.9	183.4	97.0	119.8	80.6	124.1	160.2	97.8	511.3	715.1	362.1
10,000-100,000.....	339.9	488.8	226.0	110.5	144.0	85.2	136.0	177.9	103.7	587.7	811.2	416.2
2,500-10,000.....	299.1	446.3	183.8	125.0	161.7	96.2	145.0	182.6	115.2	570.9	791.0	397.1
Rural.....	177.0	219.9	133.7	103.3	120.0	86.4	114.3	132.2	96.3	394.3	471.2	316.5
Idaho:												
100,000 and over.....	281.9	320.7	240.8	114.4	104.2	125.3	100.0	121.3	77.5	492.9	541.6	441.2
10,000-100,000.....	339.4	434.7	236.4	122.2	151.6	90.9	90.1	95.6	84.4	553.5	690.6	409.5
2,500-10,000.....	219.9	247.7	178.7	62.7	54.6	74.8	53.6	53.8	53.3	337.4	356.9	308.3
Rural.....												
Illinois:												
100,000 and over.....	392.6	481.8	309.9	70.3	71.0	69.7	93.5	93.0	94.0	556.3	646.1	473.3
10,000-100,000.....	313.3	375.8	259.5	84.0	88.1	80.4	81.9	93.9	71.7	478.7	557.5	411.2
2,500-10,000.....	263.9	322.1	213.3	80.3	84.7	76.4	79.0	88.2	71.0	423.0	495.3	360.4
Rural.....	268.0	299.0	223.5	86.5	82.7	90.7	84.1	87.9	79.9	438.4	469.3	404.1
Indiana:												
100,000 and over.....	313.7	390.8	246.5	88.3	92.3	84.9	101.5	104.0	99.3	503.1	587.3	430.1
10,000-100,000.....	298.8	362.6	241.1	109.6	114.0	105.7	95.5	102.4	89.3	503.7	578.7	436.1
2,500-10,000.....	277.6	330.4	231.8	106.9	111.7	102.8	105.8	126.1	88.2	489.6	567.5	422.2
Rural.....	239.0	271.5	203.4	95.4	95.7	95.1	85.7	95.4	81.4	423.1	462.6	379.7
Iowa:												
100,000 and over.....	262.2	323.9	210.7	96.2	99.9	93.1	53.0	71.2	38.1	411.8	493.5	343.1
10,000-100,000.....	274.5	340.0	217.9	100.7	93.6	106.9	70.6	80.3	62.0	445.8	514.1	386.9
2,500-10,000.....	268.4	332.4	212.3	101.4	108.1	95.7	55.9	61.8	50.8	426.2	503.0	359.2
Rural.....	190.8	218.5	160.3	79.3	81.1	77.3	46.9	49.1	44.6	316.9	348.6	282.0
Kansas:												
100,000 and over.....	241.9	322.3	168.9	97.4	104.5	90.9	74.2	80.6	68.7	412.9	507.4	327.7
10,000-100,000.....	264.0	349.5	193.1	87.5	94.4	81.7	85.8	105.8	69.3	437.1	550.2	343.5
2,500-10,000.....	277.6	344.3	219.8	100.7	104.3	97.5	86.6	99.0	75.7	464.6	548.6	391.9
Rural.....	196.0	220.5	158.0	78.9	78.4	79.6	66.2	73.5	57.8	341.1	381.1	295.6

See footnotes at end of table.

White resident mortality from the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases in urban-rural areas of States, 1940; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000—Continued

State and size of city	Diseases of the heart (all forms) ¹			Intracranial lesions of vascular origin ²			Nephritis ³			Cardiovascular-renal diseases ⁴		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Kentucky:												
100,000 and over.....	348.3	450.3	270.0	84.1	87.8	81.3	85.7	98.9	75.4	515.7	633.7	425.0
10,000-100,000.....	302.7	365.3	253.0	114.5	122.6	108.0	80.8	92.5	71.4	496.4	578.3	431.1
2,500-10,000.....	297.0	377.2	230.9	120.9	143.5	102.5	85.0	113.1	61.8	502.6	633.9	394.9
Rural.....	195.1	216.8	170.7	90.6	92.4	88.6	68.2	76.4	50.1	353.5	385.1	318.1
Louisiana:												
100,000 and over.....	429.4	566.4	331.9	82.9	113.1	61.5	117.8	131.8	108.0	629.9	813.8	500.2
10,000-100,000.....	317.0	476.7	181.9	80.4	98.0	65.2	97.8	131.4	98.4	493.3	704.4	313.4
2,500-10,000.....	370.0	507.7	252.1	86.5	94.8	79.5	116.5	126.8	107.7	574.1	727.5	442.5
Rural.....	233.5	275.8	186.2	67.8	66.1	69.8	73.3	77.4	68.8	374.1	419.0	324.0
Maine:												
100,000 and over.....	314.7	401.9	245.0	100.7	113.2	90.9	89.1	89.5	83.3	500.6	603.7	418.4
10,000-100,000.....	314.7	404.2	238.3	88.3	108.4	71.5	84.2	85.4	83.2	486.3	598.2	391.3
2,500-10,000.....	262.5	293.7	229.4	100.4	102.5	98.3	62.0	63.5	60.4	425.2	460.0	388.2
Maryland:												
100,000 and over.....	377.3	460.5	311.4	79.2	82.0	77.1	110.2	123.5	99.7	565.7	665.8	486.8
10,000-100,000.....	329.3	398.8	270.3	99.3	112.5	88.1	115.5	137.0	97.0	539.7	646.1	449.9
2,500-10,000.....	294.0	393.4	217.5	82.1	84.2	80.6	137.9	173.2	110.5	520.0	659.9	412.5
Rural.....	301.7	351.5	252.5	98.1	101.4	94.9	104.4	113.8	95.1	503.9	565.2	443.1
Massachusetts:												
100,000 and over.....	385.0	460.5	325.3	96.1	89.8	100.9	64.1	67.5	61.4	544.8	617.4	487.6
10,000-100,000.....	319.8	383.0	269.9	84.8	83.1	80.1	87.8	62.6	54.1	462.1	528.7	409.8
2,500-10,000.....	301.6	361.9	249.1	78.0	72.3	82.9	67.1	72.8	62.2	446.8	507.9	393.8
Rural.....	339.2	408.5	279.5	91.4	86.5	96.0	61.9	63.9	60.1	492.7	553.2	436.4
Michigan:												
100,000 and over.....	322.9	387.8	261.3	81.4	76.6	85.9	57.0	59.7	54.5	461.1	524.7	400.9
10,000-100,000.....	296.7	358.1	241.7	98.0	94.9	100.7	61.7	68.8	55.3	456.0	521.8	397.2
2,500-10,000.....	297.6	357.1	244.0	100.3	102.4	98.4	51.8	60.8	43.7	449.5	519.6	386.2
Rural.....	297.9	327.7	261.8	95.9	96.1	95.7	55.9	58.0	53.3	449.3	481.3	410.6
Minnesota:												
100,000 and over.....	275.7	336.5	220.8	80.3	79.5	81.1	28.4	31.9	25.2	384.0	448.0	326.4
10,000-100,000.....	257.8	323.9	196.0	116.5	120.3	113.0	51.3	60.1	43.1	422.7	499.1	350.7
2,500-10,000.....	253.8	287.7	198.4	92.9	97.4	88.2	48.8	60.3	36.8	385.0	444.5	323.3
Rural.....	207.4	229.8	178.5	78.9	79.3	78.5	38.1	39.5	36.3	324.1	348.3	293.7
Mississippi:												
100,000 and over.....	281.1	402.0	184.0	110.2	113.7	107.5	120.8	156.4	92.2	612.9	673.6	384.3
10,000-100,000.....	290.2	363.1	232.4	67.0	85.4	52.9	136.7	163.1	116.2	492.8	606.1	402.7
2,500-10,000.....	196.5	234.8	185.2	88.0	97.3	78.0	95.9	105.1	86.1	380.1	437.0	318.8
Missouri:												
100,000 and over.....	297.0	378.6	229.2	72.4	77.3	68.3	98.1	112.6	86.1	467.0	568.3	383.2
10,000-100,000.....	279.4	359.7	213.6	84.2	89.7	79.7	90.4	116.2	69.4	453.9	564.6	363.1
2,500-10,000.....	262.7	343.3	193.3	91.5	95.8	87.8	102.3	83.7	83.7	456.5	562.1	365.1
Rural.....	193.9	226.5	157.2	79.9	82.0	77.6	79.6	88.0	70.2	353.3	396.3	305.0
Montana:												
100,000 and over.....	327.1	379.5	269.9	86.6	77.2	97.0	61.1	60.4	61.9	475.9	519.2	428.8
10,000-100,000.....	285.1	360.4	199.5	97.3	102.9	90.9	66.5	74.3	57.9	445.1	532.8	345.5
2,500-10,000.....	227.6	262.8	172.5	77.2	76.2	78.8	46.8	47.8	45.2	350.8	386.1	295.3
Nebraska:												
100,000 and over.....	285.5	359.6	218.3	90.5	90.0	90.9	51.0	51.9	50.1	424.0	497.4	358.0
10,000-100,000.....	237.4	298.6	183.4	87.2	99.0	77.0	70.8	95.5	49.1	396.0	495.5	309.1
2,500-10,000.....	254.7	299.3	212.7	107.0	128.4	87.3	64.8	57.5	52.2	418.1	483.8	358.7
Rural.....	182.8	211.5	149.0	85.2	90.1	79.3	57.6	63.9	50.1	325.4	365.4	278.3
Nevada:												
100,000 and over.....	375.5	482.3	243.8	72.8	99.2	40.4	76.7	65.2	93.2	527.6	649.4	374.0
10,000-100,000.....	441.6	603.4	195.0	133.4	151.6	106.1	110.7	122.3	95.1	662.0	848.0	383.0
2,500-10,000.....	273.1	310.6	186.6	61.2	62.5	58.9	51.4	51.6	51.0	386.6	437.5	293.2
New Hampshire:												
100,000 and over.....	330.5	425.4	255.0	89.6	87.8	91.0	74.2	84.7	65.7	493.2	559.0	409.7
10,000-100,000.....	273.9	340.1	217.0	57.9	72.8	45.5	31.2	33.4	29.3	358.3	443.2	286.4
2,500-10,000.....	285.5	332.2	237.2	78.1	81.7	74.4	71.3	77.1	65.4	434.5	490.1	376.9
New Jersey:												
100,000 and over.....	388.7	456.3	327.4	95.0	91.7	97.9	70.1	74.8	65.9	553.2	622.4	490.7
10,000-100,000.....	321.8	394.4	261.0	81.6	77.2	85.2	70.1	76.1	65.2	473.1	547.8	410.9
2,500-10,000.....	326.9	401.6	263.3	77.6	68.4	85.5	78.9	80.8	77.0	483.1	550.6	425.7
Rural.....	359.7	399.1	320.0	94.2	93.3	95.1	87.3	89.0	85.7	540.4	580.1	500.6
New Mexico:												
100,000 and over.....	248.8	330.4	170.9	87.3	105.5	69.1	122.3	145.3	99.2	449.7	571.8	331.2
10,000-100,000.....	238.2	261.4	213.7	109.5	103.9	115.4	106.0	116.0	95.1	444.3	474.3	412.6
2,500-10,000.....	139.1	138.1	140.3	42.7	41.0	44.9	48.0	43.5	54.0	229.7	222.4	239.6

See footnotes at end of table.

*White resident mortality from the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases in urban-rural areas of States, 1940; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000*¹—Continued

State and size of city	Diseases of the heart (all forms) ²			Intracranial lesions of vascular origin ³			Nephritis ⁴			Cardiovascular-renal diseases ⁵		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
New York:												
100,000 and over.....	393.3	464.0	330.5	60.4	58.5	62.1	55.6	58.6	52.9	500.2	581.5	445.3
10,000-100,000.....	327.0	397.7	269.7	86.0	84.0	87.5	73.7	79.0	69.4	486.0	560.0	426.2
2,500-10,000.....	325.9	388.9	274.4	89.4	83.2	94.4	77.1	76.3	77.8	492.1	548.3	446.2
Rural.....	353.6	403.2	302.3	86.6	80.9	92.4	73.6	74.7	72.4	513.3	558.3	466.8
North Carolina:												
100,000 and over.....	334.0	477.3	217.3	115.5	125.1	108.3	74.7	91.7	61.1	523.2	702.8	382.0
10,000-100,000.....	292.9	413.7	198.2	119.2	141.1	102.4	124.9	144.2	109.9	537.1	697.9	411.2
2,500-10,000.....	264.6	335.1	207.1	123.7	141.1	110.0	128.7	175.5	90.3	517.2	651.0	408.2
Rural.....	219.3	258.3	179.6	113.2	123.4	102.9	117.3	128.3	106.3	449.2	509.3	387.9
North Dakota:												
100,000 and over.....	302.6	338.6	265.4	77.0	93.7	59.7	52.1	48.9	55.2	429.8	481.3	378.5
10,000-100,000.....	356.0	461.0	246.1	139.9	138.6	141.5	55.2	63.4	45.9	544.4	664.3	418.5
2,500-10,000.....	206.1	226.1	179.0	76.2	80.8	69.9	53.6	56.4	49.9	335.3	363.0	297.8
Rural.....	206.1	226.1	179.0	76.2	80.8	69.9	53.6	56.4	49.9	335.3	363.0	297.8
Ohio:												
100,000 and over.....	311.5	370.1	259.9	90.4	90.8	90.1	63.4	60.8	57.8	464.9	530.4	407.4
10,000-100,000.....	273.6	327.1	228.8	100.7	102.6	99.0	65.9	72.3	60.6	439.9	501.3	388.5
2,500-10,000.....	260.9	318.7	212.3	102.4	105.2	100.0	74.6	80.2	69.9	437.5	503.9	381.8
Rural.....	258.1	296.6	215.4	99.9	103.0	96.4	71.9	76.6	66.7	429.9	476.2	378.5
Oklahoma:												
100,000 and over.....	281.8	386.3	184.1	96.4	121.8	73.0	67.7	81.5	54.8	446.1	590.7	312.0
10,000-100,000.....	249.5	333.9	170.5	115.2	136.4	90.9	80.4	88.6	72.5	442.0	556.9	353.7
2,500-10,000.....	240.8	300.4	181.8	120.5	132.5	108.4	86.7	99.1	74.7	448.1	534.2	363.2
Rural.....	147.0	172.1	115.4	73.6	77.2	69.0	62.3	66.7	56.8	282.5	315.6	241.1
Oregon:												
100,000 and over.....	282.8	372.0	202.5	81.7	81.1	82.2	97.0	98.7	95.5	461.1	551.8	379.7
10,000-100,000.....	304.2	404.5	204.4	128.8	124.6	133.1	167.3	202.1	133.1	599.7	730.3	470.0
2,500-10,000.....	323.7	426.5	220.6	109.5	119.7	99.1	124.9	144.2	106.0	560.4	691.7	428.4
Rural.....	194.3	225.5	151.9	70.1	66.9	74.3	69.7	72.9	65.3	333.6	364.6	291.5
Pennsylvania:												
100,000 and over.....	381.3	454.3	319.7	79.8	82.6	77.4	93.5	91.9	94.9	554.1	628.5	491.4
10,000-100,000.....	330.1	410.1	261.1	87.8	85.8	89.5	95.9	104.7	88.4	513.2	600.1	438.5
2,500-10,000.....	317.8	386.7	258.2	80.7	79.4	81.8	100.2	103.1	97.7	498.2	568.8	437.3
Rural.....	324.6	362.9	283.1	94.3	95.8	92.7	94.7	96.0	93.3	513.0	553.8	468.7
Rhode Island:												
100,000 and over.....	357.1	427.0	301.0	93.1	95.0	91.6	92.9	103.2	84.8	543.1	625.5	477.4
10,000-100,000.....	346.5	396.5	304.9	92.0	101.8	83.9	89.9	100.0	81.5	527.8	596.3	470.7
2,500-10,000.....	232.7	306.8	168.1	94.4	115.8	78.8	81.5	88.9	75.3	404.8	501.3	322.4
Rural.....	320.9	371.1	271.1	97.6	93.7	101.3	80.2	70.3	89.4	501.6	536.1	467.7
South Carolina:												
100,000 and over.....	334.6	506.3	206.0	131.0	148.0	118.1	155.6	206.4	117.8	621.5	864.9	440.1
10,000-100,000.....	341.5	482.9	233.6	145.5	179.1	120.6	147.2	195.7	108.0	631.6	858.1	458.7
2,500-10,000.....	236.0	297.5	174.1	119.0	135.4	102.7	118.3	135.0	101.6	472.5	566.7	377.9
Rural.....	236.0	297.5	174.1	119.0	135.4	102.7	118.3	135.0	101.6	472.5	566.7	377.9
South Dakota:												
100,000 and over.....	270.6	344.5	198.2	101.4	120.0	83.5	40.8	52.4	29.7	412.7	512.0	313.8
10,000-100,000.....	260.2	292.5	229.6	121.3	107.2	134.9	75.0	105.3	47.0	455.4	504.9	408.8
2,500-10,000.....	188.2	219.3	149.1	73.6	75.8	71.0	45.9	50.3	40.3	307.5	345.2	260.2
Rural.....	188.2	219.3	149.1	73.6	75.8	71.0	45.9	50.3	40.3	307.5	345.2	260.2
Tennessee:												
100,000 and over.....	279.8	377.2	202.1	103.1	112.4	95.7	61.9	78.3	49.1	443.4	565.3	346.3
10,000-100,000.....	247.2	333.6	169.6	113.7	130.8	98.5	100.9	104.0	98.3	459.8	560.8	368.5
2,500-10,000.....	262.4	361.2	182.1	110.6	135.6	90.9	73.0	87.4	61.1	445.0	581.3	334.2
Rural.....	172.8	204.3	139.0	85.3	91.8	78.3	73.8	84.6	62.3	331.7	380.5	279.4
Texas:												
100,000 and over.....	298.7	405.6	207.5	92.8	95.5	90.5	73.0	91.0	57.7	463.6	590.7	355.1
10,000-100,000.....	268.0	348.9	198.1	90.4	99.7	82.2	73.8	89.2	60.0	432.9	538.2	339.7
2,500-10,000.....	262.2	351.3	179.4	93.7	107.3	81.1	90.7	113.5	69.4	446.4	572.2	329.5
Rural.....	172.4	205.4	134.2	71.9	72.8	70.9	65.0	73.5	55.2	309.1	351.4	260.0
Utah:												
100,000 and over.....	313.3	377.6	257.6	68.6	63.7	72.8	48.6	45.9	51.0	429.1	485.9	380.0
10,000-100,000.....	310.5	358.6	267.0	60.6	65.5	73.9	68.2	87.8	50.6	438.2	496.9	386.6
2,500-10,000.....	302.1	359.3	244.8	86.0	87.7	84.2	65.5	75.2	55.4	447.6	511.8	381.6
Rural.....	276.5	303.5	246.6	74.2	67.7	81.3	60.7	62.6	58.8	409.9	433.1	384.5
Vermont:												
100,000 and over.....	315.9	427.6	236.7	77.1	98.5	62.4	75.3	85.2	67.9	463.5	601.6	364.6
10,000-100,000.....	393.9	484.9	321.8	126.9	148.8	110.0	85.2	126.5	53.6	596.1	747.7	477.4
2,500-10,000.....	275.7	318.2	231.6	93.1	87.3	99.2	60.4	58.1	62.8	428.9	463.8	392.9
Rural.....	275.7	318.2	231.6	93.1	87.3	99.2	60.4	58.1	62.8	428.9	463.8	392.9
Virginia:												
100,000 and over.....	307.8	390.1	245.4	99.9	117.6	86.8	102.6	109.0	97.7	509.4	613.9	430.1
10,000-100,000.....	309.3	440.4	207.5	104.6	124.0	89.7	103.4	135.6	78.4	518.6	702.9	376.3
2,500-10,000.....	327.7	428.8	237.9	123.1	137.2	110.3	112.5	118.3	107.3	567.0	691.7	457.6
Rural.....	246.7	287.0	204.4	99.9	102.6	97.1	100.4	113.4	86.8	446.8	503.0	387.8

See footnotes at end of table

White resident mortality from the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases in urban-rural areas of States, 1940; age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 ¹—Continued

State and size of city	Diseases of the heart (all forms) ²			Intracranial lesions of vascular origin ²			Nephritis ²			Cardiovascular-renal diseases ²		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Washington:												
100,000 and over.....	309.4	375.7	242.7	89.9	89.1	90.7	63.9	70.6	57.1	463.3	535.8	390.6
10,000-100,000.....	309.0	374.9	239.7	111.8	101.0	123.0	77.7	82.3	72.9	497.1	556.4	434.8
2,500-10,000.....	319.9	401.5	232.8	110.4	114.4	106.1	77.0	80.1	73.8	504.6	590.8	411.7
Rural.....	244.7	291.0	181.7	82.0	83.6	79.9	52.8	55.6	49.0	379.8	430.2	311.0
West Virginia:												
100,000 and over.....	279.4	371.9	199.3	101.0	107.2	95.6	96.2	113.6	80.9	476.6	592.0	376.4
10,000-100,000.....	318.8	390.1	252.7	133.6	151.6	117.2	104.0	132.1	78.6	553.5	668.8	446.8
2,500-10,000.....	199.4	220.7	174.5	86.2	85.2	87.4	77.7	85.5	68.5	362.8	390.8	329.9
Wisconsin:												
100,000 and over.....	309.5	365.6	260.3	84.5	87.2	82.1	50.0	57.4	43.4	443.7	509.9	385.6
10,000-100,000.....	280.0	332.6	233.0	84.0	81.5	86.2	56.3	62.4	50.7	420.1	476.4	369.8
2,500-10,000.....	254.2	303.5	209.1	86.9	92.7	81.6	55.1	64.8	46.3	395.1	459.3	336.6
Rural.....	244.1	267.2	215.9	87.6	88.7	86.2	51.2	53.7	48.2	382.6	409.4	350.1
Wyoming:												
100,000 and over.....	301.9	356.8	241.1	85.0	102.3	66.1	66.4	77.8	54.3	448.1	537.7	352.6
10,000-100,000.....	346.1	409.6	264.2	144.7	167.9	111.2	107.3	126.0	81.5	577.3	693.9	428.5
2,500-10,000.....	216.3	247.6	168.9	66.7	77.0	51.7	57.1	59.8	53.0	339.5	382.1	274.9

¹ Adjusted for age by the indirect method (see Pearl, Raymond, *Medical Biometry and Statistics*, ed. 3, pp. 270-274) to the total population of the United States, enumerated 1940. All crude and age-specific rates are based on the enumerated population, 1940. The rates for a total of the principal cardiovascular-renal diseases were adjusted separately; they are not the sums of the adjusted rates for the three specified causes of death.

² Principal cardiovascular-renal diseases:

	International List Code Numbers			
	1980	1981	1980	1989
Diseases of the heart (all forms).....	77-80	87-90	90-95	90-95
Intracranial lesions of vascular origin.....	64-66, 82	74, 75, 83	82	83
Nephritis (all forms).....	119, 120	128, 129	130-132	130-132

Raffinose Serum Tellurite Agar Slants as a Replacement for Loeffler's Medium in Diphtheria Diagnosis

By ONA R. WHITLEY, M. S., and SAMUEL R. DAMON, Ph. D.*

Routine diagnosis of diphtheria is probably based on microscopic examination of stained smears made from nose and throat cultures grown on Loeffler's coagulated blood serum slants in the great majority of laboratories. The general use of this medium stems from its introduction by Loeffler (1) as a satisfactory base upon which to grow *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*, the belief that it possesses certain peculiar growth-promoting properties for the organism, that it is to some degree, at least, selective in its action, and that on it the organism exhibits characteristic cellular morphology and arrangement.

Over the years, the ideas expressed above have been widely disseminated and very generally accepted. The utility of the medium for diagnostic purposes would, therefore, appear to be above question. Certain disadvantages of Loeffler's medium have been recognized, however, and may be catalogued as follows:

1. It is sometimes rendered useless due to liquefaction by proteolytic organisms, therefore necessitating an "unsatisfactory" report.

2. It varies greatly from lot to lot, depending on the animal source of the serum used in its preparation, and on other factors which affect its composition.

3. Variation in composition materially affects its productivity as well as the cellular morphology of organisms.

4. It does not produce such definitive cellular morphology in *C. diphtheriae* as to make the organism positively identifiable when there are numerous diphtheroids in the culture.

5. *C. diphtheriae* is often overgrown or completely inhibited by commensal organisms.

6. Certain types of *C. diphtheriae* are either completely inhibited or, if they do grow, present such bizarre cellular morphology as to be unrecognizable.

7. Growth of certain other organisms, such as bacillary streptococci, often makes recognition of *C. diphtheriae* very difficult.

Further light has been thrown on the nutritive requirements of *C. diphtheriae* by the more recent studies of Mueller (2). From this work it appears that Loeffler's medium is a relatively poor base on which to grow the organism and that quite different results may be anticipated as to luxuriance of growth and morphology of *C.*

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diphtheriae depending on how the medium is prepared. In particular, there can be no uniformity in its preparation as different formulae call for beef, sheep or pig serum.

Experimental

Because of the objections to Loeffler's medium cited above, extended efforts have been made by the authors to develop a satisfactory substitute. Many substrates, of varying composition, have been tried during the past several years and, for one reason or another, abandoned. These have contained peptones, infusions, carbohydrates, blood, serum, tellurite and agar in different combinations and proportions. Some of the formulae were quickly dropped; others were more promising and merited further trial. Only two have appeared worthy of critical and extended trial in comparison with Loeffler's medium. One of these—dextrose serum tellurite agar—has been recommended as a plating medium (3) upon which to study colonial and cellular morphology and from which to isolate pure cultures for virulence tests.

However, in slant form on which nose and throat specimens were to be planted, as on Loeffler's medium, this did not prove to be an entirely satisfactory base. Further study resulted in the development of raffinose serum tellurite agar and its routine use for over a year has shown it to possess very definite advantages over Loeffler.

Preparation of Raffinose Serum Tellurite Agar Slants

To prepare 100 cc. of the medium

Weigh out 4.5 grams of Difco proteose No. 3 agar.

Dissolve the above in the Arnold sterilizer in 100 cc. buffered distilled water pH 7.1–7.2.*

Sterilize at 15 lbs. for 15 minutes in autoclave.

Cool to 50° C. in a water bath. This is important.

Add 10.0 cc. of stock raffinose serum tellurite solution aseptically.

Mix thoroughly.**

Tube and slant aseptically. Make long slants if possible.

Incubate at 37° C. to test sterility.

Store slants in cold room; if tightly plugged they are satisfactory indefinitely.

*Preparation of Buffered Distilled Water.

- a. M/15 anhydrous disodium phosphate (Na_2HPO_4). Divide molecular weight given on the bottle by 15 and dissolve this amount of the salt in 1,000 cc. of distilled water.
- b. M/15 anhydrous sodium acid phosphate (NaH_2PO_4). Divide molecular weight given on the bottle by 15 and dissolve this amount of the salt in 1,000 cc. distilled water.

- c. To prepare 1,000 cc. buffered distilled water of pH 7.2 add 72.0 cc. of (a) above and 28.0 cc. of (b) above to 900 cc. of distilled water.

****Preparation of Stock Raffinose Serum Tellurite Solution.**

The following sterile components are combined aseptically to give the stock solution. Human serum is specified, as it is easily obtainable from the serologic laboratory, but beef or other serum may be substituted although our results with these have not been as good as with human serum. Either crystalline potassium tellurite or the powdered salt is satisfactory and is used in 0.5 percent concentration.

Human serum	30.0 cc.
Raffinose solution (10%)	24.0 cc.
Potassium tellurite solution (0.5%)	6.0 cc.

Note: For preparation of above:

1. Human (Wassermann) serum is pooled and sterilized by Seitz filtration.
2. Raffinose solution (10%) is sterilized by Seitz filtration.
3. Preparation of potassium tellurite solution (0.5%) is as follows:

Grind 0.5 gram of C. P. dry potassium tellurite very fine in a small dry mortar. Add buffered distilled water (10.0 cc.) gradually after grinding. Stir. Allow to settle. Remove clear supernatant by pipette to 100 cc. graduate. Repeat this process until all the tellurite appears to be dissolved. Add a few drops (0.33 ml.) of 10% KOH to the mortar. Rinse sides of mortar with 10 cc. distilled water. Add to graduate and make up volume to 100 cc. The final pH will be about 9.6. Seitz filter.

Caution: Keep C. P. potassium tellurite powder in a desiccator. If powdered tellurite is used add 0.33 ml. of 10% KOH to the solution.

Use and Advantages of Raffinose Serum Tellurite Agar Slants

Nose and throat swabs from suspected cases of diphtheria were planted, as received, on both Loeffler and raffinose serum tellurite slants, the Loeffler slants being inoculated first. After incubation for 18-22 hours smears were made, stained with methylene blue, and examined under the microscope.

The results of this comparative study, in the course of which hundreds of cultures were examined, have led to the following conclusions:

1. All strains and types of *C. diphtheriae* that we know of—including the small colony variety—grow luxuriantly on the medium.
2. Individual cells of *C. diphtheriae* are longer, fatter, and more pleomorphic when grown on raffinose serum tellurite agar than on Loeffler's medium
3. The cellular morphology of all types of *C. diphtheriae* is distinctive on this medium. Thus typing is facilitated.
4. Many varieties of commensal organisms are either completely inhibited or greatly restricted in their growth.
5. Certain streptococci, which are often confusing because of their growth in bacillary form on Loeffler's medium, appear as definite cocci or in chain formation on raffinose serum tellurite agar.
6. Rarely is there any need to plate out doubtful cultures since typical *C. diphtheriae* is often visible in discrete colonies on the slant.
7. Because the cellular morphology of all organisms is more distinct than on Loeffler's, those cultures diagnosed as negative are so reported

with more assurance than would otherwise be possible. Positives are likewise more definitely positive.

8. Cultures can be examined just as early as on Loeffler's medium.

9. The medium is stable and reproducible, the ingredients are easily obtainable, and large or small quantities are prepared with equal ease.

10. A higher percentage of positives will be obtained from raffinose serum tellurite agar slants than from Loeffler's.

Conclusions

1. The formula for a medium to replace that of Loeffler in the diagnosis of diphtheria has been presented.

2. This medium is inhibitory for some of the commensal organisms found growing with *C. diphtheriae* in the nose and throat.

3. The medium is stable and reproducible.

4. No strain of *C. diphtheriae* has yet been encountered that is inhibited on this medium.

5. More positive findings result from planting nose and throat cultures on raffinose serum tellurite agar slants than from planting the same swabs on the Loeffler medium.

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INCIDENCE OF DISEASE

No health department, State or local, can effectively prevent or control disease without knowledge of when, where, and under what conditions cases are occurring

UNITED STATES

REPORTS FROM STATES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 19, 1949

Of the total of 28,054 cases of measles reported (last week 28,520, 5-year median 22,266), the largest numbers, aggregating 14,905 cases were reported in the Middle Atlantic (5,817), South Atlantic (4,854), and West South Central (4,234) areas. Slight increases were reported in the North Central, South Atlantic, and Mountain areas. States reporting the largest increases are Wisconsin (940 cases last week to 1,425), Georgia (407 to 773), Arkansas (541 to 832), Oklahoma (335 to 613), North Carolina (827 to 1,083), and Colorado (417 to 630). For the year to date, 217,804 cases have been reported, as compared with a 5-year median of 152,241 and a total of 153,809 for the corresponding last year.

Of 3,780 cases of influenza reported (last week 3,948, 5-year median 4,054), Texas reported 1,517 (last week 1,873), South Carolina 754 (last week 549), Virginia 288 (last week 387), and Arkansas 265 (last week 193). No other State reported more than 154 cases. The total for the year to date is 49,087 cases, less than half any corresponding figure of the past 5 years except that of 1945 (46,295).

A total of 51 cases of poliomyelitis was reported (last week 64, 5-year median 24), of which Texas reported 14 (last week 7) and California 11 (last week 13). No other State reported more than 3 cases. The total for the 52-week period since the average date of seasonal low incidence is 28,250 cases, as compared with a 5-year median of 13,803 and 25,409, in the 1946-47 period, the largest corresponding figure of the past 5 years.

Two cases of psittacosis were reported in Maryland, and 2 cases of smallpox, 1 each in Michigan and Kansas.

The cumulative figures for Rocky Mountain spotted fever (no cases reported currently) and tularemia are, respectively, 12 and 315 cases, as compared with corresponding 5-year median expectancies of 4 and 218.

Deaths registered during the week in 94 large cities in the United States totaled 9,799, as compared with 9,829 last week, 10,045 and 10,226, respectively, for the corresponding weeks of 1948 and 1947, and a 3-year (1946-48) median of 10,045. The total to date is 108,676, as compared with 113,408 for the corresponding period last year. Infant deaths totaled 676, last week 682, 3-year median 624. The cumulative figure is 7,401, same period last year, 7,669.

Telegraphic case reports from State health officers for week ended Mar. 19, 1949

[Leaders indicate that no cases were reported]

Division and State	Diphtheria	Encephalitis infectious	Influenza	Measles	Men- ingitis, menin- gococcal	Pneu- monia	Polio- myelitis	Rocky Mt. spotted fever	Scarlet fever	Small- pox	Tula- remia	Typhoid and para- typhoid fever 4	Whoop- ing cough	Rabies in animals
NEW ENGLAND														
Maine.....	1	.....	.....	514	1	5	.....	.....	60	.....	.....	.....	23	.....
New Hampshire.....	.....	.....	1	110	.....	2	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	5	.....
Vermont.....	.....	.....	.....	226	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	4	.....
Massachusetts.....	11	1	.....	1,455	1	.....	.....	.....	260	.....	.....	.....	60	.....
Rhode Island.....	.....	.....	.....	114	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	7	.....
Connecticut.....	2	.....	7	531	.....	94	.....	.....	44	.....	.....	1	7	.....
MIDDLE ATLANTIC														
New York.....	12	.....	b 4	2,156	3	302	1	.....	333	.....	.....	3	116	6
New Jersey.....	5	.....	3	1,244	.....	75	2	.....	171	.....	.....	1	42	6
Pennsylvania.....	15	.....	(b)	2,417	7	.....	.....	.....	292	.....	.....	5	81	2
EAST NORTH CENTRAL														
Ohio.....	13	.....	1	275	4	56	.....	.....	443	.....	1	2	60	15
Indiana.....	3	.....	1	125	.....	11	.....	.....	125	.....	.....	5	16	18
Illinois.....	5	.....	71	79	3	159	.....	.....	269	.....	.....	2	40	.....
Michigan.....	1	.....	.....	677	2	55	.....	.....	488	1	.....	1	33	.....
Wisconsin.....	1	2	56	1,425	1	11	.....	.....	70	.....	.....	.....	44	.....
WEST NORTH CENTRAL														
Minnesota.....	1	.....	.....	123	5	9	1	.....	58	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Iowa.....	.....	.....	.....	37	.....	2	.....	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	4	.....
Missouri.....	4	.....	11	564	3	32	3	.....	60	.....	.....	1	5	.....
North Dakota.....	.....	.....	21	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	1	2	.....
South Dakota.....	1	.....	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nebraska.....	1	.....	1	149	2	4	.....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Kansas.....	.....	.....	54	1,238	1	11	.....	.....	27	1	.....	.....	1	.....
SOUTH ATLANTIC														
Delaware.....	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maryland.....	.....	.....	2	1,179	1	42	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	3	7	.....
District of Columbia.....	.....	.....	.....	105	1	19	.....	.....	31	.....	.....	.....	6	.....
Virginia.....	2	.....	288	1,062	3	89	.....	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	13	1
West Virginia.....	.....	.....	61	1,133	.....	6	.....	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	9	.....

North Carolina.....	8	1,053	3	2	22	2	2	2	14	4
South Carolina.....	1	754	1	211	6	1	2	2	15	8
Georgia.....	20	773	32	1	6	1	2	1	2	2
Florida.....	4	101	1	10	6	1	1	1	1	1
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL										
Kentucky.....	1	372	3	13	34	1	1	2	5	9
Tennessee.....	4	148	5	175	46	1	1	6	15	1
Alabama.....	1	130	1	76	19	1	1	1	8	3
Mississippi.....	6	49	1	24	4	1	3	1	4	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL										
Arkansas.....	0	265	1	147	5	1	1	2	3	3
Louisiana.....	4	15	1	17	3	3	2	2	1	1
Oklahoma.....	2	613	2	33	8	1	1	1	2	5
Texas.....	12	1,517	6	471	18	14	2	2	116	25
MOUNTAIN										
Montana.....	1	62	3	3	11	1	1	1	5	1
Idaho.....	1	98	12	12	22	4	1	1	1	1
Wyoming.....	1	630	22	30	14	1	1	1	1	1
Colorado.....	1	248	2	27	15	1	1	1	9	1
New Mexico.....	1	124	2	22	7	1	1	1	12	1
Arizona.....	3	97	3	3	6	3	1	1	36	1
Utah.....	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nevada.....	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
PACIFIC										
Washington.....	2	335	2	8	53	3	1	1	3	1
Oregon.....	2	504	1	22	21	3	1	1	28	1
California.....	8	1,638	4	43	102	11	1	1	33	4
Total.....	137	3,780	70	2,380	3,252	51	2	16	901	1
Median, 1944-48.....	262	4,054	180	24	4,024	24	8	12	2,260	1
Year to date 11 weeks.....	1,339	49,087	940	923	31,484	923	22	316	460	11,341
Median, 1944-48.....	3,233	113,008	2,233	397	36,525	397	85	485	485	24,650
Seasonal low week ends.....	27th	July 31	Sept. 16	(11th)	(32nd)	(35th)	Aug. 14	Sept. 4	(11th)	Oct. 2
Since seasonal low week.....	7,054	85,357	1,784	28,250	54,182	37	3,579	3,579	21,374	1
Median, 1943-48.....	10,799	156,566	3,737	13,803	75,096	161	4,726	4,726	49,039	1

* Period ended earlier than Saturday.

b New York City and Philadelphia only, respectively.

c Including cases reported as streptococcal infection and septic sore throat.

d Including paratyphoid fever; currently reported separately, as follows: Connecticut, 1; Indiana, 1; South Carolina, 1; Georgia, 1; salmonella infections, not included, were reported as follows: New York, 2; Pennsylvania, 2.

e Alaska: Influenza, 13; measles, 1; pneumonia, 2; streptococcal sore throat, 1; rabies in animals, 1.

f Territory of Hawaii: Influenza, 92; diphtheria, 1; measles, 221; lobar pneumonia, 1; poliomyelitis, 3.

PLAGUE INFECTION IN TEXAS AND WASHINGTON

Under dates, respectively, of March 18 and 16, 1949, plague infection was reported proved in specimens taken in Yoakum County, Tex., and Yakima County, Wash., as follows:

TEXAS

Yoakum County.—In a pool of 441 fleas from 13 nests of pack rats, *Neotoma* sp., collected January 25 and 27.

WASHINGTON

Yakima County.—In a pool of 104 fleas from 62 short-tailed meadow mice, *Lagurus curtatus*, trapped February 25 on the United States Army firing range 10 miles northeast of Yakima, a pool of 416 fleas from 136 white-footed mice, *Peromyscus maniculatus*, trapped at the same location, and a pool of 106 fleas from 81 white-footed mice, *Peromyscus maniculatus*, trapped March 1 on Hanford Road, 18 miles east of Yakima.

TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS

Hawaii Territory

Plague (in rodents and fleas).—Under date of March 12, 1949, plague infection was reported proved on February 4 in a mass inoculation of tissue from 10 rats trapped in District 16A, in Kailua Gulch in the Makawao District, Island of Maui, T. H.

Under date of March 16, 1949, 3 plague infections were reported found on February 24, 1949, in Hamakua District, Island of Hawaii, T. H., in mass flea inoculations as follows: In 7 fleas from rats trapped in District 6B; in 12 fleas from rats trapped in District 7A; and in 10 fleas from rats trapped in District 6A.

DEATHS DURING WEEK ENDED MAR. 12, 1949

[From the Weekly Mortality Index, issued by the National Office of Vital Statistics]

	Week ended Mar. 12, 1949	Correspond- ing week, 1948
Data for 94 large cities of the United States:		
Total deaths.....	9,829	9,829
Median for 3 prior years.....	9,829	—
Total deaths, first 10 weeks of year.....	98,877	103,363
Deaths under 1 year of age.....	682	640
Median for 3 prior years.....	639	—
Deaths under 1 year of age, first 10 weeks of year.....	6,725	7,040
Data from industrial insurance companies:		
Policies in force.....	70,550,203	66,819,835
Number of death claims.....	14,913	14,725
Death claims per 1,000 policies in force, annual rate.....	11.0	11.5
Death claims per 1,000 policies, first 10 weeks of year, annual rate.....	9.8	10.7

FOREIGN REPORTS

CUBA

Habana—Communicable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.—During the 4 weeks ended February 26, 1949, certain communicable diseases were reported in Habana, Cuba, as follows:

Disease	Cases	Deaths	Disease	Cases	Deaths
Chickenpox.....	8	.....	Measles.....	24	1
Diphtheria.....	21	2	Tuberculosis.....	7	.....
Leprosy.....	8	.....	Typhoid fever.....	9	1

Provinces—Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.—During the 4 weeks ended February 26, 1949 cases of certain notifiable diseases were reported in the Provinces of Cuba as follows:

Disease	Pinar del Rio	Habana ¹	Matanzas	Santa Clara	Camaguey	Oriente	Total
Cancer.....	6	17	10	24	4	12	73
Chickenpox.....	.....	9	.....	3	4	2	18
Diphtheria.....	1	32	4	.....	1	1	39
Leprosy.....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	1	10
Malaria.....	.....	2	.....	3	3	21	29
Measles.....	.....	29	2	3	.....	.....	34
Poliomyelitis.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3
Tuberculosis.....	7	21	4	18	.....	12	62
Typhoid fever.....	1	17	2	7	2	38	67
Whooping cough.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	1	21
Yaws.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2

¹ Includes the city of Habana.

GOLD COAST

Cerebrospinal meningitis.—Further information on the outbreak of cerebrospinal meningitis in Gold Coast, French West Africa, states that 1,721 cases with 128 deaths occurred during the week March 2-9 in Northern Territories, and that a total of 5,380 cases with 421 deaths has been reported to date. In Ashanti 8 cases and 20 suspected cases have been reported.

JAMAICA

Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended February 26, 1949.—For the 4 weeks ended February 26, 1949, cases of certain notifiable diseases were reported in Kingston, Jamaica, and in the island outside of Kingston, as follows:

Disease	Kingston	Other localities	Disease	Kingston	Other localities
Chickenpox.....	12	23	Leprosy.....	1	.....
Diphtheria.....	1	3	Tuberculosis (pulmonary).....	22	66
Dysentery.....	1	.....	Typhoid fever.....	7	58
Erysipelas.....	2	3	Typhus fever.....	1	.....

NEW ZEALAND

Notifiable diseases—4 weeks ended January 29, 1949.—During the 4 weeks ended January 29, 1949, certain notifiable diseases were reported in New Zealand as follows:

Disease	Cases	Deaths	Disease	Cases	Deaths
Cerebrospinal meningitis.....	6		Ophthalmia neonatorum.....	1	
Diphtheria.....	15	1	Polio-myelitis.....	104	4
Dysentery:			Puerperal fever.....	8	
Amebic.....	4		Scarlet fever.....	62	
Bacillary.....	7		Tetanus.....	1	
Encephalitis, lethargic.....	2	2	Tuberculosis (all forms).....	145	41
Erysipelas.....	10		Typhoid fever.....	11	1
Food poisoning.....	16		Undulant fever.....	1	
Malaria.....	1				

SWITZERLAND

Notifiable diseases—January–December 1948.—During the year 1948 (January–December), cases of certain notifiable diseases were reported in Switzerland as follows:

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June
Cerebrospinal meningitis.....	7	6	12	3	8	6
Chickenpox.....	388	378	358	255	213	283
Diphtheria.....	420	258	223	159	162	155
Dysentery.....		1	2			7
Encephalitis, lethargic.....			1		1	1
Hepatitis, epidemic.....	38	73	45	19	21	42
Influenza.....	286	175	183	88	47	46
Measles.....	330	317	496	382	312	338
Mumps.....	187	153	207	138	97	85
Paratyphoid fever.....	4	2	4	5	9	7
Polio-myelitis.....	7	3	3	4	24	44
Scarlet fever.....	405	385	479	864	306	385
Trachoma.....						1
Tuberculosis.....	267	296	364	281	338	419
Typhoid fever.....	1	3	5	5	8	6
Undulant fever.....	8	7	18	9	16	21
Whooping cough.....	296	283	442	537	529	742

Disease	July	August	September	October	November	December
Cerebrospinal meningitis.....	7	3	6	8	10	6
Chickenpox.....	228	163	89	140	200	434
Diphtheria.....	89	152	206	219	202	210
Dysentery.....	8	35	1	1	1	
Encephalitis, lethargic.....	2	1	1			
Hepatitis, epidemic.....	20	46	72	30	44	54
Influenza.....	8	44	29	50	94	520
Malaria.....	1					
Measles.....	228	179	226	188	247	777
Mumps.....	75	66	106	90	99	227
Paratyphoid fever.....	13	37	48	16	5	8
Polio-myelitis.....	42	110	177	82	32	16
Scarlet fever.....	229	1,523	988	439	371	356
Trachoma.....				1		
Tuberculosis.....	267	281	373	223	267	320
Typhoid fever.....	3	6	15	8	2	1
Undulant fever.....	17	17	19	12	7	6
Whooping cough.....	511	531	746	471	639	823

NOTE.—Imported cases, not included in above tables, are as follows: Diphtheria, 9; leprosy, 1; malaria, 1; poliomyelitis, 1; scarlet fever, 9; typhoid fever, 2.

MADAGASCAR

Notifiable diseases—January 1949.—Notifiable diseases were reported in Madagascar and Comoro Islands during January 1949 as follows:

Disease	January 1949			
	Aliens		Natives	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Bilharziasis			93	0
Cerebrospinal meningitis			6	4
Diphtheria			7	2
Dysentery:	2	0		
Amebic	11	0	229	5
Bacillary	2	0	1	0
Erysipelas	1	0	18	0
Influenza	17	0	1,794	42
Leprosy			22	0
Malaria	416	5	36,893	229
Measles	1	0	60	1
Mumps	7	0	128	0
Plague	1	0	22	18
Pneumonia, broncho	1	1	237	48
Pneumonia, pneumococcal	3	0	264	50
Polio-myelitis			1	0
Puerperal infection			3	1
Scarlet fever	1	0		
Trachoma			1	0
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	6	2	108	19
Typhoid fever	6	0	27	3
Whooping cough			305	3

REPORTS OF CHOLERA, PLAGUE, SMALLPOX, TYPHUS FEVER, AND YELLOW FEVER RECEIVED DURING THE CURRENT WEEK

NOTE.—Except in cases of unusual incidence, only those places are included which had not previously reported any of the above-mentioned diseases, except yellow fever, during recent months. All reports of yellow fever are published currently.

A table showing the accumulated figures for these diseases for the year to date is published in the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS for the last Friday in each month.

Cholera

India—Calcutta.—Cholera was declared epidemic in Calcutta, India, on January 18, 1949. Reported incidence in that city since January 1, 1949, is as follows: January 1–31, 638 cases, 192 deaths; February 1–19, 447 cases, 158 deaths; week ended February 26, 95 cases, 35 deaths; week ended March 5, 103 cases, 35 deaths.

Plague

India—Cawnpore.—During the week ended March 5, 1949, 14 cases of plague with 2 deaths were reported in Cawnpore, India.

Indochina (French)—Cambodia—Pnom-Penh.—During the week

ended March 12, 1949, 5 cases of plague were reported in Pnom-Penh, Cambodia State, French Indochina.

Peru—Lambayeque Department.—During the period February 1–28, 1949, 4 cases of plague were reported at Ucupe Farm, Chiclayo Province, Lambayeque Department, Peru.

Union of South Africa.—Plague has been reported in the Union of South Africa as follows: Week ended February 12, 1949, 3 suspected cases in Glen Grey District, Cape Province; week ended February 26, 3 cases in Orange Free State—2 in Koppies District and 1 in Parys District, and 4 cases in Randfontein District, Transvaal.

Smallpox

Arabia—Aden Protectorate—Makalla.—For the week ended March 12, 1949, 3 cases of smallpox were reported in Makalla, Aden Protectorate.

Bahrein Islands—Bahrein.—For the week ended March 12, 1949, 2 cases of smallpox were reported in Bahrein, Bahrein Islands.

Burma.—Information dated March 19, 1949, states that Rangoon and Moulmein were declared infected with smallpox as of February 6, 1949. During the month of February, Rangoon reported 63 cases with 18 deaths, and Moulmein reported 23 cases with 3 deaths. Reported for week ended March 5 were Rangoon, 16 cases; Moulmein, 5 cases; for week ended March 12, Rangoon, 17 cases; Moulmein, 4 cases.

China.—During the period February 1–28, 1949, smallpox was reported in cities in China as follows: Amoy, 75 cases, 11 deaths; Canton, 56 cases, 4 deaths; Shanghai, 49 cases, 19 deaths.

Cuba—Havana.—Information dated March 18, 1949, reports 1 case of smallpox in the city of Havana. This case is stated to have developed in a citizen who returned to Havana by plane from Mexico City on March 4. The case was diagnosed on March 16, and confirmed on March 20.

India.—Smallpox has been reported in cities in India as follows: In Ahmedabad, week ended February 26, 1949, 71 cases, 55 deaths; in Bombay, week ended March 5, 77 cases, 23 deaths, week ended March 12, 122 cases; Madras, week ended March 5, 44 cases, 7 deaths.

India (Portuguese).—During the week ended February 12, 1949, 14 cases of smallpox were reported in Portuguese India.

Indochina (French)—Tonkin State.—For the week ended March 5, 1949, 136 cases of smallpox, with 5 deaths, were reported in Tonkin State, French Indochina.

Iraq.—During the period December 1–31, 1948, 431 cases of small-

pox with 79 deaths were reported in Iraq, and for the period January 1-31, 1949, 154 cases with 24 deaths were reported.

Peru.—For the period February 1-28, 1949, 294 cases of smallpox were reported in Peru.

Typhus Fever

France.—During the week ended January 29, 1949, 1 case of typhus fever was reported in Seine Department, France.

Pakistan.—During the week ended March 5, 1949, 31 cases of typhus fever, with 7 deaths, were reported in Northwest Frontier Province, Pakistan.

Yellow Fever

No reports of yellow fever were received during the current week.

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